6.(Amended) A [The] leptin receptor (OB-R) polypeptide [of Claim 1] which is selected from the group consisting of:

a.   N-terminal corresponding to OB-Ra through Lys^{889} and C-terminal to a C-terminal selected from the group consisting of OB-Rb, OB-Rc, and OB-Rd after Lys^{889};

b.   N-terminal corresponding to OB-Rb or OB-Rc through Lys^{889}, and C-terminal corresponding to OB-Ra or OB-Rd after Lys^{889};

c.   N-terminal corresponding to OB-Rd through Lys^{889}, and C-terminal corresponding to OB-Ra, OB-Rb, or OB-Rc after Lys^{889};

d.   N-terminal corresponding to SEQ ID NO:55 [OB-R] from Pro^{664} to Lys^{889}, and C-terminal corresponding to OB-Ra, OB-Rb, OB-Rc, or [and] OB-Rd from Lys^{889};

e)   N-terminal corresponding to SEQ ID NO:55 [OB-R] from Met^{733} to Lys^{889}, and C-terminal corresponding to OB-Ra, OB-Rb, OB-Rc, or [and] OB-Rd from Lys^{889};

f)   N-terminal selected from the group consisting of OB-Ra, OB-Rb, OB-Rd, and OB-R from Pro^{664} [,] to His^{796}, and OB-Re from His^{796};

g)   N-terminal corresponding to SEQ ID NO:55 [OB-R] from Met^{733} to His^{796}, and OB-Re from His^{796} [,or allelic variants thereof.]; and

h)   allelic variants of any of subparts a) through g).

7.(Amended) A [The] leptin receptor (OB-R) polypeptide [of Claim 1] wherein

a)   the N-terminal sequence is selected from the group consisting of

i.   amino acid residues 1-889;

ii.   amino acid residues 23-889;

iii.   amino acid residues 28-889;

iv.   amino acid residues 133-889;

v.   amino acid residues 733-889;

vi.   amino acid residues 1-796;

vii.   amino acid residues 23-796;

viii.   amino acid residues 28-796;

ix.   amino acid residues 133-796; [and]

x.   amino acid residues 733-796; and

xi)   allelic variants of any of subparts i) through x); and

b)   the C-terminal sequence is selected from the group consisting of

i)   SEQ ID NO:11;

ii)   SEQ ID NO:12;

iii)   SEQ ID NO:13;

iv)   SEQ ID NO:14; [and]

v)   SEQ ID NO:15; and

vi)   allelic variants of any of subparts i) through v);

wherein the numbering in subpart a) is based on the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:55 [the full length transcribed murine leptin receptor, including the signal peptide, or allelic variants thereof].

8.(Amended) A [The] leptin receptor (OB-R) polypeptide [of Claim 1] which is a soluble receptor.

9.(Amended) The soluble leptin receptor of Claim 8 which is selected from the group consisting of

a)   OB-Re;

b)   an N-terminal sequence which is selected from the group consisting of:

i) OB-Ra,

ii) OB-Rb,

iii) OB-Rd, and

iv) corresponding to SEQ ID NO:55 [OB-R] from Pro^{664}, through His^{799}, and

a C-terminal sequence which is OB-Re from His^{796} ; and

v) allelic variants of any of subparts i) through iv);

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c)   an N-terminal sequence which is selected from the group consisting of

      i)   amino acid residues 1-796;

      ii)   amino acid residues 23-796;

      iii)   amino acid residues 28-796;

      iv)   amino acid residues 133-796; [and]

      v)   amino acid residues 733-796; and

      vi)   allelic variants of any of subparts i) through v); and

a C-terminal sequence which is SEQ ID NO:15;

wherein the numbering in subparts b) and c) is based on the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:55 [the full length transcribed murine leptin receptor, including the signal peptide, or allelic variants thereof].

14.(Amended) A [The] leptin receptor polypeptide, which is a human leptin receptor and which comprises [of Claim 12 comprising] an amino acid substitution selected from the group consisting of: Phe for Ser^{36}; Asp for Tyr^{44}; Ser for Leu^{49}; Pro for Ser^{54}; Leu for Ser^{60}; Ala for His^{63}; Ala for Thr^{66}; Ala for Pro^{70}; Ile for Thr^{77}; Tyr for His^{78}; Pro for Ser^{80}; Gly for Arg^{92}; Gly for Asp^{96}; Thr for Ala^{103} or Ile^{106}; Ser for Leu^{118}; Gly for Asp^{124}; Thr for Lys^{138}; Pro for Ser^{146}; Asp for Val^{164}; Leu for Gln^{177}; Asp for Gly^{179}; Gly for Glu^{192}; deletion for Cys^{193}; His for Leu^{197}; Ser for Ile^{221}; Leu for Asn^{233}; Leu for Ser^{273}; deletion for Thr^{278}; Ala for Asp^{285}; Glu for Lys^{286}; Ser for Gly^{310}; Arg for Met^{370}; Ile for Ser^{379}; Ser for Phe^{394}; Ala for Glu^{417}; Gly for Glu^{459}; Ser for Ile^{476}; Thr for Ile^{482}; Thr for Ile^{551}; His for Tyr^{586}; Lys for Ile^{648}; Ala for Ser^{686}; His for Cys^{687}; Thr for Ile^{759}; Ile for Asn^{776}; Asp for Gly^{781}; Gly for Glu^{782}; Gly for Ser^{827}; Ala for Asp^{832}; Arg for Pro^{892}; Thr for Glu^{893}; Asp for Thr^{894}; or Leu for Glu^{896}, wherein the numbering of the amino acids corresponds to the numbering adopted for SEQ ID NO:56 [the human leptin receptor, including the signal sequence].

Please add the following claims:

--   67.   The leptin receptor of any of Claims 3-9 and 14 which is a human leptin receptor.